'This' and 'that' in Uipo

Mosyel Syelsaangthyel Khaling
Independent Uipo Native Linguist

Introduction:

Uipo is a Tibeto-Burman language spoken by about 2000 people in the Tengnoupal District of Manipur. **Uipo** represents both the language and the people. **Khoibu** is the exonym. **Uipo** is clearly an endangered language as a huge population of the younger generation has shifted to languages such as Meitei, Hindi and English, in their day today conversation, whether they are in Manipur or Delhi. There is huge loss of lexical items and vocabulary due to change of lifestyle, occupation and religion. This paper deals with the demonstratives of Uipo spoken by around 2000 speakers in Chandel district of Manipur, India. The demonstratives discussed here are ***hata*** which means 'this' and ***tasa, adsa, akhuisa, hiekhuisa, aningsa, hieningsa, aluisa,*** and ***hieluisa*** all of which mean 'that' in different conditional and topographic situations. The paper explores the semantics behind the usage of these demonstratives in Uipo. The nuances of these demonstratives are as follows:

hata [hətə]: this demonstrative translates as **'this (is)'** is used to point at or to refer to an object which lies within the reach of, or being held by the speaker.

hata chim
hə   -tə   cím
this   DET   house
'this is a house'

hata keirakuol
hə   -tə   kəi   -rəkò:l
this   DET   my   garden
'this is my garden'

tasa [təsə] : this demonstrative which translates as **'that (is)'** is used, in normal and general context, to point at or to refer to an object which is not within the speaker's reach but held or within the reach of the hearer.

tasa chim
tə   -sə   cím
that   DET   house
'that is (a) house'

there are seven more kinds ***'that (is)'*** spoken in different contexts. they are –

ad-sa [ətsə]	'that at nearby but not reachable (is)'
akhui-sa [əkhuísə]	'that at far straight (is)'
hiekhu-sa [hèkhuísə]	'that at near straight (is)';
aning-sa [ənìŋsə]	'that at far up (is)';
hiening-sa [hèníŋsə]	'that at near up (is)';

        alui-sa [əluísə]   'that at far down (is)'; and

        hielui-sa [hèluísə]   'that at near down (is)'

the last determining syllables of these demonstratives, i.e. *[-tə]* of *[hətə]* and *[-sə]* of *[təsə]* are omitted and replaced by other types of determiners, viz. *[-raang], [-raangrie], [-rei], [-reirie],[-ri], [sam]or[-tam], [-sir] or [-tir], [-sou] or [-tou]*, etc resulting to different meanings:

haraang mang-aa
hə   *-ràŋ*   *məŋ*   *-á*
this   DIR   come   IMP
'(do) come this side'
*hataraang mang-aa

taraang louchaa
tə   *-ràŋ*   *ləú*   *-ca*
that   DIR   IMP   go
'(obey and) go that side'
*tasaraang louchaa

haraangrie mang-aa
hə   *-ràŋ*   *-rè*   *məŋ*   *-á*
this   DIR   towards come IMP
'(do) come towards this side
*hataraangre mang-aa

taraangrie louchaa
Tə   *-ràŋ*   *-rè*   *ləú*   *-ca*
that   DIR   towards IMP   go
'(obey and) go towards that side'
*tasaraangre lou-chaa

harei manglou
hə   *rəì*   *mən⁴*   *-ləu*
this   from   come   take
'(come and) take from this side'
*hatarei manglou
tarei loulou
tə   *-rəí*   *ləú*   *-ĺəu*
that   from   IMP   take
'(do) take from that side'
*tasarei loulou

hareirie manglou
hə   *-rəì*   *-rè*   *mən⁴*   *-ləu*
this   from   side   come   take
'(come and) take from this side'
*hatareirie manglou
tareirie loulou
tə   *-rəì*   *-rè*   *ləú*   *-ləú*
that   from   side   IMP   take

'(do) take from that side'
*tasareirie loulou

hari   mang-aa
hə   -ri⁴   məŋ   á
this   upto   come   IMP
'(do) come up to this'
*hatari mang-aa

tari mang-aa
tə   -ri⁴   məŋ   á
that   up.to   come   IMP
'(do) come up to that'
*tasari mang-aa

hatam mangkhou
hə   -tə̀m   məŋ⁴   -kʰə́ú
this   exact.spot   come   keep
'(come and) keep at this (exact spot/place/location)'
*hatatam mangkhou

tasam heikhou
tə   -sə̀m   həì   -kʰəu⁵
that   exact.spot   IMP   keep
'keep at that (exact spot/place/location)'
*tasasam heikhou

hatir   mangkhou
hə   -tir   məŋ⁴   -kʰə́ú
this   area   come   keep
'(come and) keep at this (area)'
*hatatir mangkhou

tasir   heikhou
tə   -sir   həì   -kʰəu⁵
that   area   IMP   keep
'(do) keep at that (area)'
*tasasir heikhou

hatou heicha
hə   -təù   həì   -cə⁵
this   like   IMP   eat
'(do) eat like this'
*hatatou heicha

tasou heicha
tə   -səù   həì   -cə⁵
that   like   IMP   eat
'(do) eat like that'
*tasasou heicha

However, *[-sa]* of *[adsa]* *'that at near but unreachable (is)'* is NOT omitted while suffixing these determiners viz. *[-rei], [-reirie] and [-ri]:*

adsarei

əd	sə	-rə̀i
that at near but unreachable	DET	from

'from that (at near but unreachable)'
**ad-rei*

adsareirie

əd	-sə	-rə̀i	-rè
that at near but unreachable	DET	from	side

'from that (at near but unreachable) side'
**adreirie*

adsari

əd	-sə	-ri⁴
that at near butunreachable	DET	upto

'upto that (at near but unreachable)'
**ad-ri*

The determiners *[-raang], [-raangrie], [-tam],* etc. are not at all applicable to *[adsa]*.

However, **no** part of '**this (is)**' or '**that (is)**,' i.e. '**hata**' or '**tasa**' is dropped when they are further suffixed by the following determiners:
 [-na], [-ngai], [-pui], [-ruoi], [-ta], [-ti] [-ung], [-ya] etc.

[hata] 'this (is)':

hatana katan

hə	-tə	-nə́	kə̀	-tən⁵
This	DET	DET	V.PRX	beat

'beaten with/by this'

tasana katan

tə	-sə	-nə́	kə̀	-tən⁵
that	DET	DET	V.PRX	beat

'beaten with/by that'

adsangai kakhou

əd	-sə	-ŋai	kə	-kʰə́ú
that (at near but unreachable)	DET	only	V.PRX	have

'(I) have only that (at near but unreachable)'

akhuisapui kachaa

əkʰuí	-sə	-pùi	kə̀	-ca⁵
that (at far straight)	DET	DET (with)	V.PRX	go

'(I) go with that (at far straight)'

hiekhuisaruoi louroi

hèkʰuí	**-sə**	**-rɔ̀ːi**	**ləú**	**-roːi**
that (at near straight)	DET	DET (also)	IMP	carry

'carry that (at near straight) also'

aningsata nayi

əníŋ	**-sə**	**-tə**	**nəji⁴**
that far up	DET	DET (BUT)	yours

'that (at far up) is (but) yours'

hieningsati kayai

hèníŋ	**-sə**	**-tí**	**kɜ̀**	**-jai⁵**
that (at near up)	DET	DET (about)	V.PRX	talk

'(it's) talking about that (at near up)'

aluisa-ung yongpi

əluí	**-sə**	**-uŋ⁴**	**joŋ**	**-pi**
that (at far down)	DET	DET (for/to)	go down	give

'(go down and) give (it) for/to that (at far down)

hieluisaya kayai

hèluí	**-sə**	**-jə**	**kɜ̀**	**-jai⁵**
that (at near down)	DET	DET (of about)	V.PRX	talk

'(it's) talking about (thing or things of) that (near down)'

Plural Demonstratives:
–yiao [-jaò] is the uncountable plural marker suffixed to '**ha-**' of '**hata**' 'this (is)'and to '**ta-**' of '**tasa**' *'that (is)'* replacing its '**–ta**' of '**hata**' and '**–sa**' of '**tasa**'.e.g.

Hayiao	'these'
and	
tayiao	'those';
ad-yiao	'those (at near but unreachable)';
akhuiyiao	'those (at far straight)';
hiekhuiyiao	'those (at near straight)';
aningyiao	'those (at far up)';
hieningyiao	'those (at near up)';
aluiyiao	'those (at far down)'; and
hieluiyiao	'those (at near down)'

And the plural marker '**-yiao**' cannot be affixed or suffixed more than once to any word in a sentence or a clause:

hayiaosa thangaa

hə	**-jaò**	**-sə**	**tʰəngá**
this	PL	DET	fish

'these are fishes'
*hatayiaosa thangaa

*hatayiaosa thangaayiao
*hayiaosa thangaayiao

tayiaosa thangaa

tə	-jaò	-sə	tʰəŋá
that	PL	DET	fish

'those are fishes'
*tasayiaosa thangaa
*tasayiaosa thangaayiao
*tayiaosa thangaayiao

adyiaosa thangaa

əd	-jaò	-sə	tʰəŋá
that (at near but unreachable)	PL	DET	fish

'those (at near but unreachable) are fishes'
*adsayiao thangaa
*adsa thangaayiao
*adyiaosa thangaayiao

akhuiyiaosa thangaa

əkʰuí	-jaò	-sə	tʰəŋá
that	PL	DET	fish

'those (at far straight) are fishes'
*akhuisayiao thangaa
*akhuisa thangaayiao
*akhuiyiaosa thangaayiao

…and so on.
[-yiao] also comes after nouns followed by DET [-sa] in both 'this' and that':

hathangaayiaosa

hə	-tʰeŋá	jaò-	sə
this	fish	PL	DET

'these fishes (are)'

tathangaayiaosa

tə	-tʰəŋá	-jaò	-sə
that	fish	PL	DET

'those fishes (are)'

adthangaayiaosa

əd	tʰəŋá	-jaò	-sə
that (at near but unreachable)	fish	PL	DET

'those fishes at near but unreachable (are)'

akhui yaayiaosa

əkʰuí	já	-jaò	-sə
that (at far straight)	animal	PL	DET

'those animals at far straight (are)'

…and so on.

however, the plural marker *-yiao* [-jaò] is not used to nouns followed by
numerals: e.g.,

[-rug] and **[khani]: -rug** implies **'two-together'** *in number of persons* and **khani** means *'two together in number of objects'*.

harug charchaa
hə   **-rúg**   **cə́rcá**
this   two (persons are)   brother-sister
'these two (persons together) are brother and sister'
harugsayiao
harugyiaosa

hieningrug kanaa
hèníŋ   **-rug**   **kə̀**   **na⁵**
that (at near up)   two (persons together are)   ADJ.DET   sick
'those two (persons together at near up) are sick'
hieningrugsayiao
hieningrugyiaosa

hakhani honkhei
hə   **kʰəní**   **hòn**   **-kʰəí**
this   two (things)   take along   IMP
'(do) take along these two (things)'
hakhaniyiao honkhei

akhui khani man
əkʰuí   **kʰəní**   **mə̀n**
that (at far straight)   two (things)   bring
'bring those two (things at far straight)'
akhui khanisayiao
akhui khaniyiaosa

akhui tharugsa
əkʰuí   **tʰərug -sə**
that (at far straight)   six   DET
'those six (at far straight) are'
akhui tharugsayiao
akhui tharugyiaosa

adrayiasa
əd   **-rəjà**   **sə**
that (at near but not reachable)   hundred   DET
'those hundred (near but unreachable) are' *ad-rayia-sa-yiao* *ad-rayia-yiao-sa*

…and so on.

The pronominal marker ***a-***[ə-] is prefixed to the figure names to give the meaning ***'both'*** or ***'all these/those***: e.g., *[akhani]* 'both the two (of them)'; *[akhayum]* 'all the three (of them)'; *[aphangaa]* 'all the five (of them)' and so on.

akhani heikhou

ə	-kʰəní	həì	-kʰəu⁵
PRO	two	IMP	keep

'(do) keep both'

akhayum heikhou

ə	-kʰèjum⁵	həi	-kʰəu
PRO	three	IMP	keep

'(do) keep all three of them'

-phangaa heikhou

ə	-pʰə̀ŋa⁵	həì	-kʰəu⁵
PRO	five	IMP	keep

'(do) keep all five of them'

… and so on.

[hətə] 'this (is)' and *[təsə]* 'that (is)' cannot occur after a noun but the noun can occur before or after the determiners in all respects:

hata   keichim

hə	-tə	kəi	-cim⁴
this	DET	PPS	-house/home
this	is	my	house

'this is my house'

hachimsa kayi

hə	-cim⁴	-sə	kəji⁴
this	house	DET	mine

'this house (in particular) is mine'

note: the determiner *[-sə]* follows the noun instead of *[-tə]*. *[hə-cim-tə kəyi]* means 'this house is but mine'.

tachimsa a-ei

tə	-cim⁴	-sə	ə	əi⁴
that	house	DET	3S	of

'that house is his/hers'
tachimsa nayi

adchimsa kayi

əd			cím	-sə	kəji⁴
that (at near but not reachable)			house	DET	mine

'that house (at near but unreachable) is mine'
adchimsa nayi

hata versus *tasa*:

hatatita tasana kapaag

hə	*-tə*	*-tí*	*-tə*	*tə*	*-sə*	*-nə*	*kə*	*-pág*
this	DET	ACC	DET	that	DET	NOM	ADJ.PRX	wide

'that is wider than this'

tasa thlangaichai hatana kadoi

tə	*-səq*	*tʰləŋai*	*-caì*	*he*	*-tʍ*	*-nə*	*kə*	*-dóːí*
that	DET	good		but	this	DET	NOM	ADJ.PRX better

'that is good but this is better'

adsa-ungkum hata heilou

əd	*-sə*	*-uŋ⁴kum⁴*	*hə*	*-tə*	*həì*	*ləu⁵*
that (at near but not reachable)	DET	for/of instead	this	DET	IMP	take

'take this instead of that (at near but not reachable)'

hata versus *hata*:

hata-ungkum hata heilou

hə	*-tə*	*-uŋ⁴kum⁴*	*hə*	*-tə*	*həì*	*-ləu⁵*
this	DET	instead of	this	DET	IMP	take

'take this instead of this'

hasaratlaang-ungkum hatapei heihol

hə	*-sərə̀tˡaŋ⁵*	*-uŋ⁴kum⁴*	*hə*	*-tèpəi⁵*	*hə̀*	*-hol⁵*
this	cloak	-instead of	this	dhoti	IMP	choose

'choose this dhoti instead of this cloak'

tasa versus *tasa*:

heningsati aningsana kachou

hèniŋ	*-sə*	*-tí*	*əníŋ*	*-sə*	*-nə*	*kè*	*-cəu⁵*
t (at near up)	DET	ACC	that far up	DET	NOM	ADJ.PRX	high

'that (at far up) is higher than that (at near up)'

hielui sana aluisarei kadar

hèluí	*-sə*	*-nə*	*əluí*	*-sə*	*-rə̀ì*	*kə*	*-dər*
that (at near down)	DET	NOM	that far down	ABL	-FROM	ADJ.PRX shallow	

'that near down is shallower than that is far down'

[hətə] and *[təsə]* in adverbial comparison in size, quantity, quality, etc:

hatayangkhei katang

hə	-tə	-jeŋ⁴	-kʰəí	kə	-téŋ
this	DET	like-ʔ	DET	ADJ.PRX	big

'as big as this much (comparing with another size)'

tasayaakhei kachung

tə	-sə	-ja⁴	-kʰəi	kə̀	-cuŋ⁵
this	DET	like-ʔ	DET	ADJ.PRX	numerous

'as numerous as this much (comparing number)'

adsouri karei

əd		-səù	-ri⁴	kə	-rəí
that (at near but not reachable)		like	DET	ADJ.PRX	cold

'as cold as that much (at near but unreachable)'

akhuisouri katlaa

əkʰuí		-səù	-ri⁴		kə	-tˡá
that (at far stretch)	like	DET (UPTO)			ADJ.PRX	far

'as far as that much (at far straight)'

hiekhuisouri khayaang

hèkʰuí		-səù	-ri⁴		kʰə̀	-jaŋ⁵
that (at near straight)		like	DET (UPTO)		ADJ.PRX	long

'as long as that much (at near far)'

aningsouri kachou

əníŋ		-səù	-ri⁴	kə̀		cəu⁵
that (at far up)	like	DEt		ADJ.PRX		high

'as high as that much (at far up)'

Having discussed the demonstratives above, it is evident that Uipo demonstratives come with different meanings depending on the situations of the speaker and the hearer. This article has not taken any reference from the work of any scholar. It is totally based on my personal research and consultations with the community speakers during the last 49 years. I would like to thank all the community members and others who helped me.

Abbreviations:

ACC	- accusative	NOM	– nominative
ADJ. PRX	– adjectival prefix	PL	– plural
DET	– Determiner	PURP	– purpose
DIR	– directive marker	V.PRX	– verbal prefix
IMP	- imperative		
LOC	- locative	PPS	– Pronominal possessive marker

In the IPA glossing, superscripted **'4'** and **'5'** are used to indicate the tone between mid-tone and high-tone and the tone between low-tone and mid-tone respectively. However, the **5ᵗʰ** tone syllable happens only when it is prefixed by a low tone syllable and it changes to mid tone when not prefixed.